

DIRECTOR

# ST. CHARLES PARISH

# DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

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TO:

V.J. St. Pierre, Jr.

FROM:

Duane P. Foret, Parks and Recreation Director De P. Jacob

SUBJECT:

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

The St. Charles Parish Parks and Recreation Department completed another productive year in 2010. We have 50 parks that include 73 baseball fields that must be maintained along with restrooms and concession stands at most of the sites. We cut, chalk and maintain approximately 313 acres of land at athletic sites in the parish. This is about 157 acres on each side of the river with approximately 50 acres per grass cutter within the department. If you factor in inclement weather it becomes a highly intensive task just to cut grass.

This department works along with nine booster clubs to encourage participation in our sports. We have an OTS (Organized Team Sports Member per booster club) Meeting every 2-3 months as needed to keep everyone up to par on our sports that are offered seasonally. We maintain an OTS Manual that is used as a guide for most issues that need to be clarified. The OTS Manual has been in place for the past 20+ years and updated on as needed basis. We ask each booster club to submit a wish list each year and attempt to make that wish a reality if possible. The larger booster clubs such as Mimosa and Destrehan have assisted financially on several occasions.

We work along side with the School Board and assist them in grass cutting and maintenance work in turn so that we are enabled to use their gyms, fields and facilities. Gym space continues to be a major obstacle for our program. Hopefully the newly proposed community center will add tremendous value to our department.

Park improvements were made at various parks, some with grants to playgrounds, field upgrades, concession stands and restroom on site.

# 2010 ST. CHARLES PARISH PARKS AND RECREATION

Based on Year of 2009 & 2010 Participants

SPORT	2009 # OF TEAMS	2010 # OF TEAMS	2009 # OF PARTICIPANTS	2010 # OF PARTICIPANTS
BASEBALL BOYS YOUTH (201 INCLUDING T-BALL-30 & ALL-STARS 2010 Boys T-ball only	0	101	1,464	1,313
SOFTBALL GIRLS YOUTH (2009 INCLUDING ALL-STARS-4) 2010 Girls T-Ball	44	50	572	650
FALL Baseball (W/B PARK)	12	12	140	130
SOFTBALL ADULT INDUSTRIAL	12	7	183	140
SOFTBALL ADULT INDEPENDENT	13	13	195	210
SOFTBALL ADULT WOMEN	9	9	142	160
BASKETBALL BOYS YOUTH (INCLUDING ALL-STARS-7)	111	104	1,108	1,040
BASKETBALL GIRLS YOUTH (INCLUDING ALL-STARS-3)	23	19	251	228
BASKETBALL ADULT INDUSTRIAL/ INDEPENDENT COMBINED	20	16	292	240
FOOTBALL YOUTH	40	3	820	836
CHEERLEADERS	10	9	280	225
SOCCER AGES 4-19			1,000	850
TRACK	<sub>2</sub> 1	1	75	65
SENIOR OLYMPICS (NUMEROUS EVENTS THROUGHOUT)			375	
SPECIAL OLYMPICS (NUMEROUS EVENTS THROUGHOUT)				
SUMMER CAMP (INCLUSIVE)	4 camps	4 camps	459 + 91 camp employees	445 + 83 camp employees
PARK RENTALS/CLEAN UP			20	

SPILLWAY CAMPING PERMIT (NO CHARGE)			60	
VOLLEY BALL LEAGUE	19	25	220	287
CHALLENGER T-BALL	2	2	85(includes Buddies)	85(includes Buddies)
SHOOTING STARS BASKETBALL	2	2	85(includes Buddies)	85(includes Buddies)

#### Recreational Activities Offered

Youth -	Football, Basketball, Baseball, All Stars, Fall Baseball, Soccer, Cheerleading.
	Softball, T-Ball (Boys & Girls), Summer Camp, Volleyball, Track, Temporary
	Summer Jobs, Picnics, etc.

Adult - Basketball, Women, Industrial and Independent Softball, Radio Control Racetrack, Coaching, Multi-Use Track at East and West Bank Levee, and Walking Track, Temporary Summer Jobs, Picnics, etc.

Seniors - Bowling, Softball, Basketball, Arts & Crafts, Game Sporting Activities, Mardi Gras Ball, Fishing Rodeo, Horseshoes, Sketching & Oil Painting Classes, Casino Trips, Field Trips, etc.

Special

Athletes - Softball, T-Ball, Volleyball, Track & Field, Basketball, Bowling, Bocce, Challenger Baseball Program, Shooting Stars Basketball and Swimming.

We have 10 Boat Launches throughout St. Charles Parish for all ages.

#### Youth Baseball - (Babe Ruth League)

#### 2 Separate Leagues – American & National

American League is a more skilled level of play which ends the season with the ability to participate in All Stars. National League is a recreational level of play which enables the players to learn the game at a lower level of play.

All Star Competition - Boys

7 Boys USSSA World Series Champs, 9 Boys USSSA State Champs and Cal Ripken State Champs, 11 Boys Cal Ripken State Champs & Cal Ripken State Champs & Cal Ripken State Champs

#### Youth Softball League - Babe Ruth League

All Star Competition - Girls

8 Girls State Champs & Southwest Regional Runner-Ups, 10 Girls State Champs and Southwest Regional Champs

## Challenger Baseball

2 teams - Special Athletes

85 Participants including Buddies that assisted with the program.

The Challenger Division is a program for mentally and physically challenged youth, helping them to enjoy the full benefits of participation in an athletic environment structured to their abilities. More than the skills of baseball learned through the experience, the value of the Challenger Program is found I the proven therapeutic and socialization benefits of participating in sports, the strengthening of participants' self-esteem, the opportunities to mainstream into other divisions of play, and the disciplines of teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play, which are hallmarks of this program.

### Youth Football Program

In 2010, we had a total of 38 teams that participated in this program. This was another great season with 836 participants. Our Bowl Day Championship was a great success along with our Cheerleading Showcase. We had 9 teams of cheerleaders with 225 participants.

# Youth Volleyball

This program has grown very large in the past two years. We now have 287 participants with 25 teams participating in this sport.

#### Fall Baseball

Fall baseball had another successful season with 12 teams with 130 participants. The fall league is for the children who want to continue playing baseball after the regular season ends. This league plays twice a week with little or no practice during this two month season. This is a great learning league that allows the players to prepare themselves for the upcoming season.

#### Youth Basketball Program

I League - 104 with approximately I, 040 participants (girls and boys) In 2010, we decided to run one league and it worked out fine. Gym space continues to be a big issue when creating schedules for practice and games.

#### All Star Competition

8 Yr Girls Biddy Basketball 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in Regional's 10 Yr Girls Biddy Basketball 1<sup>st</sup> in Regional's and 3<sup>rd</sup> in National Biddy Basketball

# Basketball - Shooting Stars

2 teams – Special Athletes

85 Participants including Buddies that assisted with the program.

This program was developed due to the success in our Challenger Baseball Program. Program is for the mentally and physically challenged youth, helping them to enjoy the full benefits of participation in an athletic environment structured to their abilities.

#### Summer Camp

In 2010, we once again offered before and after care program at JB Martin and Schoeffner, one on each side of the river. We had 445 summer campers for 2010.

Camp Sites – JB Martin, Luling, Schoeffner and Cammon. Numerous part-time jobs were offered at all camp sites.

Continued to offer Camp Shriver Program to challenge athletes with disabilities and inclusion. Camp Fees Flat Fee for entire 6 week session was \$100 with an additional fee of \$50.00 for the activity fee.

Partnered with Community Services to provide healthy lunch meals at Cammon and Luling Summer Camp locations.

#### Adult Softball

We had 7 Industrial teams, 13 Independent and 9 Women's League teams that participated in Adult Softball Program.

Adult Basketball (Industrial and Independent combined)

We had 16 teams in this league with 240 participants.

#### Seniors

Senior Overnight Adventures – Casino Trips

Numerous sports offered along with arts & crafts, exercise and events, etc.

The competitors represented our parish well in regional and national competition. Senior activities included the Mardi Gras Ball, Bowling League, Bayou-River District Olympic Games, Golf, Fishing Rodeo, Arts and Crafts, Bocce, Fitness Program, Road Trips (dining, casino, shopping, etc.) and several others. Special Olympics participants enjoyed, softball competition, Olympic games, horseshoes, track and field. basketball, t-ball, and working with the Alligator Festival.

#### **Boat Launches**

We have 10 boat launches in St. Charles Parish.

# 2010 Highlights

We held our 2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt along with a hat and jelly bean competition. We had over 250 participants with beautiful weather. The East Hat Competition was judged by the Red Hat Society.

Babe Ruth – State and Regional Champions Youth Volleyball – Twenty-five teams increase 23% for participants this year

Rathborne Park Multi-Use Path - Installed .84 miles of walking or biking path – Joining Lakewood to Willowridge.

Wetland Watchers Park – Installed 8 pavilions with picnic tables, 2 fishing piers, outdoor classroom and playground equipment in Norco at Spillway.

Montz Park – Installed playground and equipment with a grant from Entergy, \$70,000.

Keller Street Park – Installed a pavilion. 2 picnic tables and BBQ pit and placed trash receptacles and beach seating in Hahnville.

Monsanto Park – Installed new fence to surround the park along River Road in Luling and installed a new pavilion to enhance park usage for picnics.

Des Allemands Park - Covered and demented dug outs near baseball fields.

East and West Bank Bridge Parks - Poured additional cement surfaces to help with daily upkeep of park and to provide additional covered areas for citizens.

West Bank Bridge Park - Resurfaced tennis courts.

<u>Recognition of Volunteer Hours</u> – Coaches (Practice, Games & Playoffs) 48,048 hours – Parish Booster Clubs (Meetings, Registration & Concessions) 7,873 hours. Total Volunteer Hours estimated at 55,921 hours in 2010.

#### Partnership with the following Activities

United Way 5k Bridge Run, Teen Violence Seminar, Battle of the Paddle

Rotary Club Alligator Festival, Christmas Tree Lighting

STC Picnic Employee Picnic

Cancer Relay American Cancer Society - Relay for Life

Bayou River Region Senior Games, etc.

Special Olympics STC School System

RSVP

Wetland Watchers